

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An LNG carrier for transporting LNG from one location to another, comprising:

[[~~(a)~~]] a vaporizer ~~on board an LNG carrier~~ within an LNG carrier hull for vaporizing the LNG to a gaseous state;

[[~~(b)~~]] at least one heat exchanger ~~at least partially submerged in water~~ outside of the LNG carrier hull; and

~~(c) an intermediate fluid circulating between said vaporizer and said heat exchanger; and~~

[[~~(d)~~]] at least one pump for circulating ~~said intermediate fluid~~ an intermediate fluid between said vaporizer and said heat exchanger;

wherein the at least one heat exchanger is configured to transfer heat to said intermediate fluid.

2. (Currently amended) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the ~~submerged~~ heat exchanger is attached to an exterior surface of the LNG carrier.

3. (Currently amended) The carrier of claim 1, wherein the heat exchanger is at least partially submerged in water ~~integral with the LNG carrier hull~~.

4. (Withdrawn) A method for regasifying LNG while on board an LNG carrier comprising:

(a) circulating an intermediate fluid between a vaporizer on board an LNG carrier and a submerged heat exchanger;

- (b) heating the LNG to a temperature above its vaporization temperature using heat energy carried by said intermediate fluid; and
- (c) heating the intermediate fluid using heat energy supplied by the submerged heat exchanger.

5. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4 in which the submerged heat exchanger is attached to the LNG carrier hull.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4 in which the submerged heat exchanger is integral with LNG carrier hull.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 4, including;

- (a) connecting the LNG carrier to the submerged heat exchanger after the LNG carrier arrives at a terminal; and
- (b) disconnecting the LNG carrier from the submerged heat exchanger prior to the LNG carrier leaving the terminal.